PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
Monday, September 14, 2020; 6:00 P.M. C.D.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenel Nels, Molly Brockmann (remotely), Jean Dickson, Nikhil Wagle, Jodi Hoskins, Brent Ayers, Tina Anderson. Absent – none. Also present: Brian Strusz, Mike Zimmer, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Marlise Bosman, Abby Meuser, Steven Zimmerman, Misty Miller and others remotely.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Wagle welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the vision of the District: It is the vision of the Pleasant Valley Community School District that we shall provide the finest academic and extra-curricular programs in the state – not in some things, but in everything; not for some students, but for every student.

District parent Steve Zimmerman shared with the Board American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 guidance for school re-entry and the fundamental need for school in a child’s educational and social development.

The Board expressed gratitude for backpacks, calculators and school supplies gathered and donated by Hopewell parent Marie Feehan and friends, as well as supplies received from the Genesis Health Group “Pack the Bus” project.

Mr. Strusz noted the announcement of Joe Ambrose’s retirement at the end of the 2020-21 school year. Mr. Ambrose has served as a high school teacher and coached a number of athletic teams in his 35 years with the Pleasant Valley Community School District.

Mr. Strusz also shared the condolences of the District with the Murphy family upon the recent death of former PVHS Chemistry Teacher Bert Murphy, who served district students for nearly 40 years.

RECOGNITION: Pleasant Valley High School Principal Mr. Erickson introduced 2021 National Merit Semifinalists in the 66th annual National Merit Scholarship Program: Kalen Bunch, son of Lee and Keitha Bunch of Bettendorf; Owen Jones, son of Matt and Mary Jones of Bettendorf; Samuel Kowing, son of Ben and Jennifer Kowing of Bettendorf; Cassandra Smith, daughter of Stanley and Janis Smith of LeClaire. These students are among 16,000 semifinalists nationwide who will compete for 7,600 National Merit scholarships. More than 1.5 million juniors entered the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the PSAT/NMSQT qualifying exam. The Board congratulated these talented students on behalf of the District.
CONSENT AGENDA, September 14, 2020: Motion by Ayers, second by Nels that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

The September 14, 2020 consent agenda consists of the following:

- **MINUTES:** The approval of minutes of the August 24, 2020 Regular Meeting and Executive Session.

- **PERSONNEL:**
  CERTIFIED: The following individuals have earned extra credits since their contracts were issued and will advance on the salary scale for the 2020-21 school year: Audra Bailey, Larissa Bailey, Victoria Beale, Ann Berger, Maury Betzel, Pamela Boens, Katherine Calcott, Kaitlin Carlin, Emily Connell, Andrew Croegeart, Elizabeth Curtis, Rachel Dolehanty, Mary Tess Dwyer, Maureen Dyer, Jackie Edgin, Andrew Fermoyle, Lydia Gatton, Carol Hamann, Ashley Hebbeln, Michelle Howes, Jacqueline Josupait, Alissa Kirsch, Jason Landa, Rebecca Larson, Jennifer Lauritsen, Carrie Linnenbrink, Spencer Lueders, Elizabeth Mansfield, Zachary Marotta, Christopher Peterson, Kathryn Rokusek, Jessica Scadden, Claire Slifka, Megan Smith, Megan Sopher, Leslie Spiller, Theresa Staley, Joette Strobbe, Michael Strobbe, Matt Stutenberg, Elizabeth Thomas, Alyssa VanSpeybroeck, Carolyn Vinyard, Jane Wheeler, Jennifer Wilson.

  Joe Ambrose, At-Risk Teacher at Pleasant Valley High School, has announced his retirement at the end of the 2020-21 school year after 35 years in the District; 37 years in education.

  CLASSIFIED: Jacqueline Gray, Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary, has had a contract increase from 25 to 27.5 hours per week starting August 31, 2020. Laura Hatz, Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary, has submitted her resignation effective September 4, 2020. Margarita Huizar, part-time Custodian at Riverdale Heights Elementary, is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting September 16, 2020. Terry Phillips, part-time Custodian at Cody Elementary, is nearing the end of his probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting September 16, 2020.

  CLASSIFIED: (information only): Anne Johnson is recommended for probationary employment as a Choir Accompanist at Pleasant Valley High School starting September 14, 2020. Molly Miller is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting September 8, 2020. Abigail Mills is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary starting August 27, 2020. Margaret Peeters is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Cody Elementary starting September 17, 2020. Jessica Richards is recommended for probationary employment as a Pleasant Valley Junior High Orchestra Accompanist starting September 14, 2020. Eriana Rivera-Cummings is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary starting August 31, 2020. Kaitlin Sherrer is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary starting September 21, 2020.
EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

**ADDS:**
- Dan Bischoff  PVJH Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
- Aubrey Drake  PVJH Assistant Volleyball Coach
- Erin Ahnquist  PVJH Head Volleyball Coach

**DROPS:**
- Lindsay Eisentrout  PVHS Assistant Girls Soccer Coach

- OPEN ENROLLMENT: One student IN from Bettendorf, one student IN from North Scott.

EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Hoskins, second by Dickson that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $477,303.64 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Hoskins that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $55,348.12 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Nels that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $2,135.50 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Nels, second by Ayers that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $56,271.57 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $159,008.36 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Dickson that Internal Service Fund warrants 6135 through 6142 be issued in the total amount of $43,296.16 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Nels that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $4,028.17 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

RETURN TO LEARN WEEK THREE UPDATES: Mr. Strusz, Mr. Zimmer and Dr. Lewis recounted successes and challenges from the first three weeks of school. Much has been learned but there is more to be learned and changes to be made. Mr. Strusz reminded the Board of the District’s three goals from the start: providing high levels of learning, a safe environment for all and keeping our schools open.
COVID-19 status:

Aug. 24 - Sept. 4  
5 individuals tested positive  
46 individuals in quarantine

Sept. 5 - 11  
0 individuals tested positive  
7 individuals in quarantine

Weekly updates will be shared on the COVID-19 Updates and Return to Learn page accessible from the scrolling banner on the home page of our district website.

After week three, 16.4% of district students are 100% online.

The District has partnered with the Scott County Family Y to offer childcare for kindergarten through 6th grade students on hybrid learners’ non-school days and has assigned a full-time substitute teacher to the Y program to provide guidance and support needed to complete assignments. Bettendorf Community School District has also placed a substitute teacher at the Y to assist their district’s students.

Each week the district reviews the following benchmarks to help assess the status of our current learning models:

- Positivity rate in our community per the Scott County Health Department
- Number of cases per day in our community per the Scott County Health Department
- District data (positive COVID-19 cases and number of individuals quarantined)
- Data from other local school districts
- Age levels of individuals being impacted (positive COVID-19 cases and number of individuals quarantined)

Challenges being reviewed include the demands this new learning model places on students, teachers and parents. The demands on students and parents include learning expectations, time required and organization. For teachers, the increased responsibility of preparing and delivering instruction combined with providing feedback to students in both the hybrid learning model and 100% online model is a challenge. Adjustments which will assist everyone continue to be made.

Misty Miller, the parent of 4 children between kindergarten and grade 12, described for the Board the challenges her family has encountered with hybrid learning.

The Board expressed gratitude to teachers, staff, administrators, students and parents for their patience and diligence during these challenging times.

No required motion.

**SBRC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ALLOWABLE GROWTH AND SUPPLEMENTAL AID FOR 2019-20 SPECIAL EDUCATION DEFICIT:** The state requires that the Board authorize a request to the SBRC (School Budget Review Committee) for allowable growth (also known as spending authority) for the amount of the District’s special education deficit for the 2019-20 fiscal year in order for the district to receive the additional spending authority. The state also requires the Board authorize a request to the SBRC in order to receive supplemental aid. Supplemental aid is a distribution of the positive special education balances of other districts in the state to districts which have special education deficits. This supplemental aid is prorated based on the amount of a district’s special education deficit. These requests to the SBRC are
standard procedure every year the district has a special education deficit. Following is the District’s special education deficit for each of the past ten years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>$55,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>$581,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>$417,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$694,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$565,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>$452,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>$590,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>$608,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>$816,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>$1,332,169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2019-20 special education deficit increased by $515,704 in part because the District was unable to bill for approximately $400,000 of Medicaid during the period after spring break (the Covid shutdown) because students were not in the buildings but staff continued to be paid.

Motion by Dickson, second by Anderson that the Board authorize a request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for allowable growth in the amount of the district’s final 2019-20 special education deficit of $1,332,169 and a request for supplemental aid based on the amount of the District’s final 2019-20 special education deficit of $1,332,169. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**SBRC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ALLOWABLE GROWTH FOR THE 2019-20 LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (L.E.P.) DEFICIT:** The state requires that the Board authorize a request to the SBRC (School Budget Review Committee) for additional allowable growth (also known as spending authority) for the amount of the District’s Limited English Proficiency (L.E.P.) deficit for the 2019-20 fiscal year in order for the District to receive the additional spending authority. The state began allowing districts to request additional allowable growth for their L.E.P. deficits beginning with deficits that were incurred for the 2013-14 fiscal year. We have calculated the District’s 2019-20 L.E.P. deficit to be $77,998.54.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Ayers that the Board authorize a request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for additional allowable growth in the amount of $77,998.54 for the District’s 2019-20 L.E.P. deficit. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**PLEASANT VALLEY JUNIOR HIGH PARKING LOT RENOVATION CHANGE ORDERS:** Mr. Strusz explained the most recent Tri City Blacktop, Inc. change orders:

- **Change order #3** add of $624.20 - Extend 5 downsputs along the South edge of the building for temporary drainage.
- **Change order #6** add of $7,214.29 - Removal of extra PCC (plain cement concrete) under existing sidewalk and remove sidewalk by flagpole.
- **Change order #7b** add of $20,668.38 - Removal of additional asphalt and rock discovered under the existing tennis court.
- **Change order #8** add of $2,070.00 - Drain tile installed to remove water from the west side of the drive to the east side of the detention pond.
Motion by Anderson, second by Nels that the Board approve Change Order #3 for the Pleasant Valley Junior High Parking Lot Renovation project in the amount of an add of $624.20. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Nels that the Board approve Change Order #6 for the Pleasant Valley Junior High Parking Lot Renovation project in the amount of an add of $7,214.29. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Nels that the Board approve Change Order #7b for the Pleasant Valley Junior High Parking Lot Renovation project in the amount of an add of $20,668.38. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Nels that the Board approve Change Order #8 for the Pleasant Valley Junior High Parking Lot Renovation project in the amount of an add of $2,070.00. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:
September 28, 2020  Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
                  (Board tour of new projects & construction 4:00 p.m.)
October 12, 2020  Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

(Meetings are conducted in adherence to all COVID-19 room capacity and social distancing requirements. Guests are welcome to participate remotely in the Belmont Administration Center's technology training room should room capacity be reached in the boardroom. Board Members and guests are required to wear masks.)

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OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment is the process by which a parent or guardian residing in an Iowa school district may enroll their child into a public school district other than the one in which they reside. The deadline for filing an Open Enrollment Application for students in grades 1-12 is March 1st prior to the school year of requested attendance. The deadline for filing an open enrollment request for an incoming kindergarten child is September 1st of the year open enrollment is first requested. For Open Enrollment information and application, visit the district website at www.pleasval.org / district / new student enrollment/open enrollment info or contact Deborah Dayman daymandeborah@pleasval.org (563)332-5550.
JULY 2020

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

The district requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, or age. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Inquiries concerning the application of federal and state nondiscrimination statutes and the implementing regulations to the district may be referred to Mike Zimmer, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, and Washington, D.C. Mr. Zimmer’s office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.

Brian Strusz
Superintendent